National Development Council

69. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has asked the State Governments to pay adequate attention to healthcare and ensure efficient functioning of public health service and convened a special meeting of the National Development Council to discuss health care, disease control and public health issues;

(b) whether in a review meeting on the National Rural Health Mission greater investment in medical education including nursing, especially in States where there is an acute shortage of seats in nursing and medicine were emphasized; and

(c) if so, what concrete measures Government have taken to implement the suggestion in NDC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) During the review of the National Rural Health Mission by the Prime Minister, the possibility of convening a meeting of the National Development Council/ Central Council for Health and Family Welfare to discuss healthcare and disease control was discussed.

(b) In a review meeting on the National Rural Health Mission chaired by the Prime Minister reform of regulatory agencies required for meeting human resource gaps in the sector was stated.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Inequality in health spending of urban and rural areas

†70. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of the total money being spent on public health services, more than sixty per cent goes to urban and elite section of the society while more than 70 per cent of the population of the country lives in rural areas even today;

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to stop this inequality;

(c) the total number of doctors out of the registered doctors in India, working in rural areas; and

(d) whether Government are formulating any scheme to increase the number of these doctors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Health is a State subject and expenditure on public health is a function of the disease burden status and the health needs of the population. As such it is not possible for categorizing health

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.